

ROTOVUE

Serving Marine Corps Air Station New River and Jacksonville, N.C.

www.newriver.usmc.mil

Nov. 16, 2005

Vol. 44 No. 23

'JARHEAD' IN THEATERS



New Corps-themed movie has positive, negative messages

SEE PAGES 11,12

USMC TRADITIONS



Mess hall works to prepare birthday meal, uphold Corps spirit

SEE PAGES 14,15

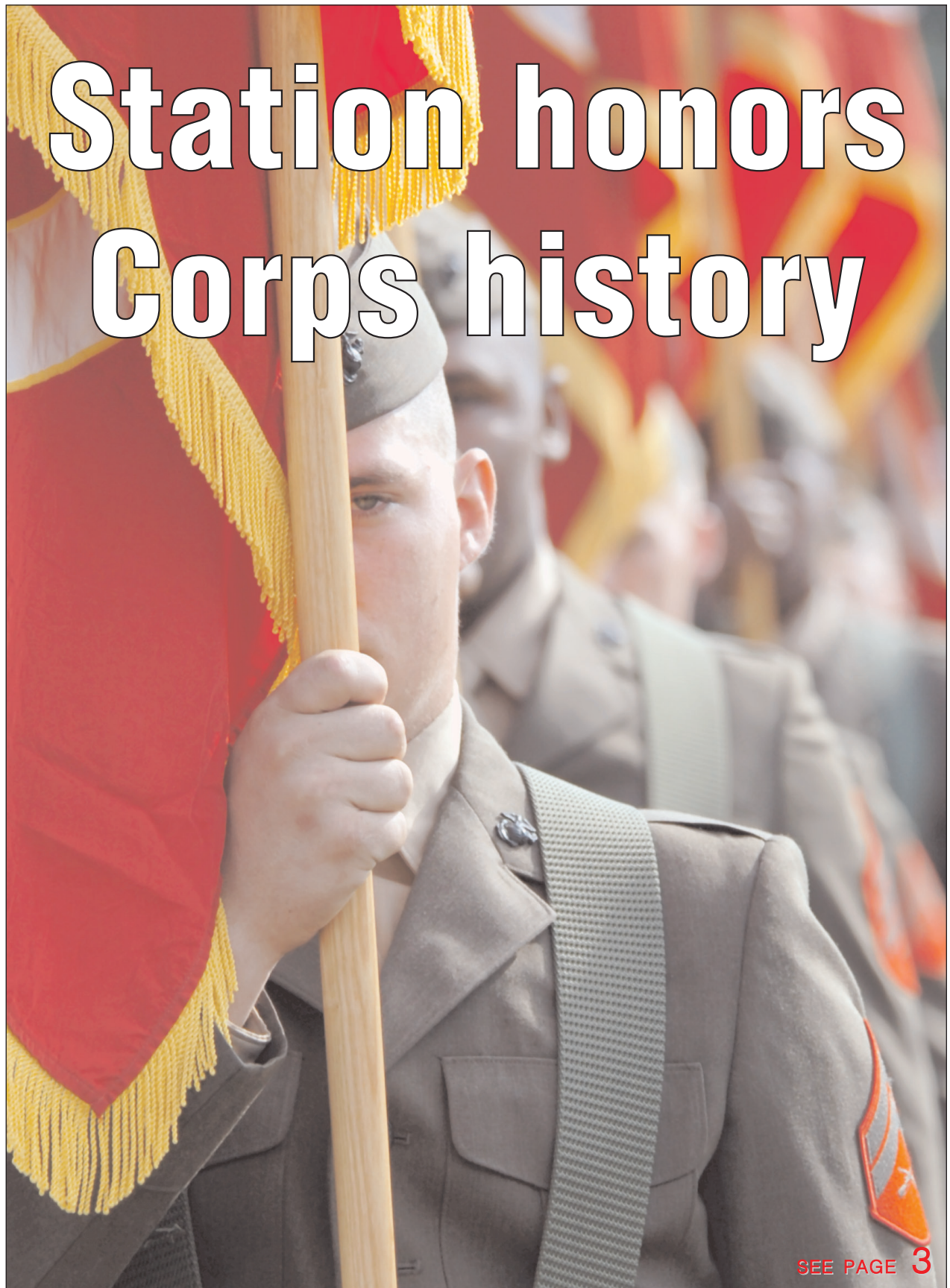
NEW RIVER FIGHTERS



New River Marines drop opponents with heavy dose of "sweet science"

SEE PAGE 18

Station honors Corps history



SEE PAGE 3

Command
Message

The 2006 Marine Corps Air Station New River Air Show will be held May 12, 13 and 14 at Station Operations.

For more information, contact Maj. Michael Wood at 449-5007.

A team of organized criminals is installing equipment on legitimate bank ATM's in at least two regions to steal ATM card and personal identification numbers.

The team sits nearby in a car receiving the information transmitted wirelessly over weekends and evenings from equipment they install on the front of the ATM.

If you see anything suspicious, report it to the bank using the toll free number on the ATM.

There will be a Texas Hold 'Em Poker Night at the Staff Noncommissioned Officers' Club every third Friday of each month, excluding December.

The first cards will be dealt at 6:30 p.m. and play ends at midnight.

Tickets cost \$20.

Community

November is National Adoption Month and the 2005 campaign is "Answering the Call."

There will be a local Adoption Awareness Fair on Saturday from 12 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the Department of Social Services training facility.

Families that are interested in providing foster care services are also welcome.

The training facility is located in the New River Shopping Center located at 1245 Hargett Street, Jacksonville, N.C.

The Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce and Time Warner present the 50th Annual Holiday Parade on Saturday, Nov. 19.

The parade starts at 10 a.m. and will travel from Coastal

Carolina Community College down Western Boulevard and stop at the Brynn Marr Shopping Center.

It will feature several marching bands, beauty queens, floats, cars, bikes and fire trucks.

Any kids wishing to have their picture taken with the parade grand marshals (The Flintstones) can attend a photo shoot at the Jacksonville Mall on Friday from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The Scholarships for Military Children programs applications are available and must be turned in by close of business Feb. 22.

Applications, eligibility and other information for the 2006 Scholarships for Military Children program are available at <http://www.militaryscholar.org> or <http://www.commissaries.com>.

The program is open to unmarried children under the age of 21 (23 if enrolled in school) or active duty personnel, Reserve, Guard and retired military.

Dependents of servicemembers who die on active duty will be paid basic allowance for housing for each day after the date of the member's death, not to exceed 365 days.

Dependents qualify for BAH as long as they do not occupy a housing facility under the jurisdiction of a Uniformed Service on a nonrental basis.

The allowance shall be paid in the same amount and in the same manner as that which the member would have been paid.

The United Services Organization would like to invite all bikers to the first Freedom Ride on Nov. 19 at 10 a.m. The ride will begin at the USO at 9 Tallman Street in Jacksonville, go on to New Bern and then finish at Hooters in Jacksonville.

Pre-registration is \$15 per rider and \$20 the day of the ride.

All proceeds go to benefit the USO of North Carolina.

For more call 346-3155.

Library

The Station library is sponsoring the 3rd Annual Children's Book Swap today through Saturday.

Children can trade a book for a book with a five-book-limit. For more information call 449-6715 or go to www.cbcbooks.org/cbw.

Education

Marines leaving active duty as an officer or enlisted with a four-year degree who want to learn more about the Marine Corps Reserve and its benefits are encouraged to contact Maj. Greg B. Malone, 2nd Transitional Recruiting Office reserve officer recruiter on Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C., at malonegb@lejeune.usmc.mil, or call 451-2788.

Religious Info

The Weekly Men's Bible Study Group meets every Thursday morning at 6 a.m., at the Mainside Protestant Chapel Annex behind the Base Chapel.

For more information, contact Chaplain James Dance at 451-3210, Maj. Jo Rozier at 451-7842, Staff Sgt. Stacey Lafferty at 450-8595 or Jim Sides at 451-5024.

In the Corps

Career roadmaps are available for enlisted Marines and their leaders.

Roadmaps offer a single source reference for Military Occupational Specialty training, education requirements and recommendations.

The program was initiated in 2004 and is designed to offer Marines a "one-stop-shop" guide that will enable them to capitalize on all available opportunities to enhance professional, educational and personal development.

For more information, go to www.tecom.usmc.mil/g3/roadmap.php or read All Marine Message 044/05.



Civilian
Spotlight

Tracey
Nichelle
Rogers
Corner Cafe
employee



Home state:

Alabama

Family: Rogers said she has a daughter

Lashera, 17 years old, a son Trey, 5 years old, and her husband Sammy.

Military background: Rogers husband is a retired United States Marine.

Time on Station: Rogers said she has been working here for ten years.

Best part of job: Rogers said the best part of her job is that she gets to meet people from all different walks of life.

Best part of working with the military: Rogers said she enjoys the friendliness of the Marines from around the area. "They are a joy to work with and I get to talk (trash) with them all day."

Best advice received: "Shoot for the moon and if you miss, you'll be among the stars."

Person whose lifestyle I'd like to emulate: She said she'd like her life to emulate that of Oprah. "I want my life to emulate Oprah's because she's rich."

Personal hero: Rogers said her personal heroes are her mother and her grandmother. "My heroes are my mother and grandmother because they are the most influential people in my life."

Proudest accomplishment: Rogers said her proudest accomplishment is her family. "Having my kids and being married to a man in the military for 17 years is my proudest accomplishment."

What would be the best Christmas gift for you?: She said the best gift for her would be a sport utility vehicle like a 2006 Cadillac Escalade.

Personal motto: "Treat people as you would want to have them treat you," said Rogers. "That's the golden rule."



Commanding Officer
Col. Stephen L. Forand

Public Affairs Officer
Capt. Stuart J. Fugler

Executive Officer
Lt. Col. Frank H. Miner

Public Affairs Chief
Master Sgt. Phil Mehringer

Sergeant Major
Sgt. Maj. Lewis Summerville

Editor
Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola

Disclaimer

This Department of Defense newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the DoD. Contents of The RotoVue are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the DoD, or the Joint Public Affairs Office, Marine Corps Air Station New River.

The RotoVue is published by Landmark Military Newspapers, a private firm in no way connected with the DoD, the U.S. Army, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Air Force, or the U.S. Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with

MCAS New River.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DoD or military services, or Landmark Military Newspapers, of products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportu-

nity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Joint Public Affairs Office. For information regarding content, contact Joint Public Affairs Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station New River, PSC. Box 21002, Jacksonville, NC 28545-1002.

If you have any comments or suggestions you may also contact the public affairs office at (910) 449-6196 or fax (910) 449-6478.



Pfc. Samuel D. White

The Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron color guard marches down Western Boulevard as part of the City of Jacksonville Veteran's Day parade on Nov. 5. Spectators at the event were treated to a Marine Corps spectacle that included a fly-over of MV-22 Ospreys from Marine Test and Evaluation Squadron-22.

New River Marines help contribute to Jacksonville Veteran's Day Parade

Pfc. Samuel D. White
correspondent

Smiles could be seen along Western Boulevard in downtown Jacksonville Saturday, Nov. 5, as large crowds enjoyed the annual Veteran's Day parade.

Debbie Hangsleben, Veteran's Day parade coordinator, planned the parade with help from North Carolina Chapter-5 Rolling Thunder biker group, New River Air Station, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, the Naval Hospital and several other organizations.

"I would like to thank everyone who came out and supported the parade," said Hangsleben. "It was very rewarding in the fact that the citizens of Onslow County made a good showing and I truly feel the public enjoyed the parade."

The parade marched from Coastal Carolina Community College to the Brynn Marr Shopping Center and included over 120 separate moving floats and organizations and over 900 participants, making it the largest Veteran's Day parade to date in Jacksonville.

"This year was bigger than most because we requested that businesses be allowed to enter the parade so they could show their support for the veterans of the county," Hangsleben explained. "We felt that everyone should be invited to partake in this event that pays tribute to so many that have given of themselves and some that have given all for the freedom we enjoy as Americans today."

To lend a helping hand, New River contributed a color guard and a fire engine from Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron and officially kicked off the ceremony by providing four MV-22 Osprey's that flew down Western Boulevard.

"We could not have done this without the support of Marine Corps Air Station New River," said Hangsleben. "All those involved at New River were most helpful and generous with the requested assets and coordination to pull this all together."

With the event behind them, the parade committee was happy to honor our veterans and looks forward to continuing the tradition next year.

"Many of the older veterans afterwards were very positive in their remarks. Some felt it was the most organized and largest event they had been part of in the previous eight years," said Hangsleben. "I would just like for all people to remember the purpose of the parade: to remember the veterans of yesterday, to honor the veterans of today and to remember that we still have American servicemen and servicewomen serving today in all parts of this world."

22nd MEU (SOC) sets sail on deployment

Gunnery Sgt. Keith A. Milks
22nd MEU Public Affairs

ABOARD THE USS NASSAU (Nov. 10, 2005) -- The shrill blast of the ship's whistle and the static-filled announcement 'Underway' over the ship's intercom provided a tangible reminder to the Marines and sailors of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) that finally, after months of preparation, their deployment had begun.

The announcement came as the amphibious assault and combatant ships of Expeditionary Strike Group-8, for which the 22nd MEU (SOC) is the landing force, turned their bows east to begin their trans-Atlantic voyage.

Scheduled to deploy to both the European and Central Command theaters with ESG-8, the MEU's Marines and sailors will spend the trans-Atlantic voyage conducting small unit and individual training. This is the 22nd MEU (SOC)'s 20th deployment since its activation in December 1982.

"Our goal is to accomplish the missions we'll be given and bring everybody home," said Col. Kenneth F. McKenzie, Jr., commanding officer of the 22nd MEU (SOC). "Based on our performance to date through the pre-deployment training period and my knowledge of the magnificent units that make up this MEU, I know that we're going to be successful."

In the days leading up to the ESG's departure from the United States, the 22nd MEU (SOC) kept busy loading its vehicles, cargo and aircraft onto its ships. At the same time, at locations throughout Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Stations New River and Cherry Point, family and friends gathered to bid farewell to their deploying Marines and sailors.

On Nov. 5, the eve of her first wedding anniversary, Alyson McQuillen watched elements of the MEU's ground combat element depart Camp Lejeune aboard chartered buses bound for Virginia where the amphibious assault ships Nassau, Carter Hall, and Austin were moored.

"I'm very proud of him," Alyson said, clinging to her husband, Ryan, a corporal with Alpha Co., Battalion Landing Team 1st Bn., 2nd Marines, "but also heartbroken."

"We've been through separations before, but we've never had to do a will or talk about his insurance before, so it's a bit scary."

Helping Alyson deal with the angst of her husband leaving was her family, who drove from Frederick, Md., to lend their support.

"I really think these goodbyes are harder on the family," said Darlene Price, Alyson's mother, scanning the throngs of families lining the roadside waiting for the Marine-laden buses to pull away.

"They're all so young; it's so overwhelming what these Marines and their families are willing to give up for our freedom," Price added.

After stints in the Marine Security Forces and as a competitor on the Marine Corps Wrestling Team, Cpl. McQuillen, a three-year Marine veteran, is looking forward to his first operational deployment.

"The hardest part about all this is leaving my wife," said the Frederick, Maryland native, who serves as a squad leader in BLT 1/2's Alpha Company, "but I'm ready to finally go out and do what I need to do."

In addition to BLT 1/2, the 22nd MEU (SOC) consists of its Command Element, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-261 (Reinforced), and MEU Service Support Group-22.

Station celebrates 230th Marine Corps Birthday at Joint Daytime Ceremony

Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale
correspondent

The Station commemorated the 230th birthday of the Marine Corps by holding its annual Joint Daytime Ceremony at the fitness center football field Nov. 9.

According to Sgt. Maj. Robert A. Parrish, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-464 sergeant major, the ceremony is a chance for the Station's Marines to get together to celebrate their shared history.

"There aren't too many times when we can get together like this," he said. "It's a chance for older Marines to pass on traditions to younger Marines and ensure those traditions survive."

The organization of the ceremony usually begins approximately a month in advance, said Capt. Peter E. Klempay, Station adjutant.

"It's important that the whole Station is involved in the ceremony," said Klempay. "There are very few opportunities for all the units here to be together like this."

The ceremony was highlighted

by three events: recognition of each unit's colors, a presentation of Marine uniforms dating from the Revolutionary War era to the current digital pattern and the cutting of the birthday cake.

Colonel Stephen L. Forand, Station commanding officer, presided over the cake cutting and was presented with the first piece. The next piece was then offered to the youngest Marine assigned to New River, Lance Cpl. Timothy K. Meloche, Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training network specialist.

The uniforms and cake cutting are symbols of the pride the Marine Corps has in its history, said Klempay.

"Things like this remind us of why we are Marines," he said. "It's what separates us from other services. It's part of our tradition."

Lance Cpl. Frederic P. Wilson, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-264 flight equipment technician, said he felt honored to stand in one of the platoons as part of the ceremony.

"It's nice to take time to get

together with all the other units," he said. "It also gives us a chance to meet other Marines from around New River."

The birthday celebration is also a chance to look back with pride on the accomplishments of the previous year, and to rededicate ourselves to succeeding in the next, said Parrish.

"It's a time to remember our values and a reflection of our years of service," he said. "It shows the pride the Marine Corps has in its history."



Lance Cpl. Ezekiel R. Kitandwe

Marine Corps Installations East CG's Veteran's Day Message



As we have done since 1919, Americans take this day to remember and honor the men and women who have served in the armed forces of the United States.

Throughout our history, men and women of this country have made great personal sacrifices when answering the call to serve.

Regardless of the uniform worn or during which time period they served, veterans continue to be united by the same ideals of liberty and justice for everyone.

Veterans and their families have endured

tremendous hardships in order to support and defend these ideals; many gave their life.

Our military men and women continue to defend these ideals in the global war on terror. Our commitment to them and our cause must not waiver. On this Veteran's Day, while watching a parade, attending a memorial service or spending time with family, reflect on their sacrifices and show your appreciation to our veterans.

Make responsible decisions concerning travel and alcohol consumption. I need everyone back re-energized and ready for the challenges ahead. Remember, I would rather have you back late than not at all.

Semper Fidelis,
Major Gen. Robert C. Dickerson

Meritorious promotion boards help Marines get ahead

Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale
correspondent

There are few things that look better on a Marine's record than a meritorious promotion.

For the Marines of Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, the chance to prove they are ready to assume the responsibilities of a higher rank comes four times a year in the form of meritorious promotion boards.

According to Sgt. Maj. Grant VanOostrom, H&HS sergeant major, the squadron convenes boards each quarter to meritoriously promote Marines to the ranks of sergeant, corporal and lance corporal.

"The purpose is to recognize those Marines who consistently

perform above and beyond their peers, who have proven that they are technically and tactically proficient in their (military occupational specialty) and have shown their senior leadership that they are capable of achieving the goals of the next higher grade," he said. "These boards are one resource we have to recognize their outstanding service."

Requirements include a first class physical fitness test, being up-to-date on necessary professional military education, having no disciplinary actions within a required time period and completing a common skills test.

A Marine's success also depends heavily on how well he presents himself to the members

See **BOARDS** on page 10

ATC Marine receives recognition for hard work

Pfc. Samuel D. White
correspondent

Among the activities and progress that takes place inside the Air Traffic Control tower works a motivated Marine, whose outlook and 'grab the world by the horns' attitude leads his fellow servicemembers by example.

Sergeant Zhen Zhao, a 21 year-old New River Marine and Air Traffic Control radar watch supervisor, was recently awarded a meritorious promotion to sergeant from Marine Corps Installations East for his hard work, professionalism and dedication to his job.

"I was really looking forward to going up on a board at that high of a level," said Zhao. "Being able to compete against the top five percent from Marine Corps Installations East is something that is exciting."

Zhao had competed at Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune against several other corporals from all over the MCI East region who he considered to be very professional.

"At Camp Lejeune I competed against five other corporals," said Zhao. "There was one Marine from each of the (MCI) bases except for Florida."

The board the Marines went in front of consisted of sergeants major from each of the installations. At the end of the question and answers section of the board, they brought all the corporals in and announced that Zhao had won.

"It was an honor to be chosen to be meritoriously promoted,"

said Zhao. "I'd been preparing weeks in advance for the boards and it worked out. In my opinion, anyone can win a board as long as

Sergeant Zhen Zhao, air traffic control radar watch supervisor, was recently awarded a meritorious promotion to his current rank.

See **ZHAO** on page 10



Marines contribute to Holiday Cheer

Station's annual program delivers help to those in need

Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale
correspondent

Since Oct. 1, Station service-members have been donating canned goods and cooking accessories to the annual Holiday Cheer program, sponsored by the Officer's Wives Club and the Station chaplain's office to benefit Marines in need.

The program began as Christmas Cheer, but the organizers realized there was a greater need at Thanksgiving, said Monica Turner, program coordinator.

"Now the idea is to provide a complete Thanksgiving meal to Marines and their families," she said. "Many people leave the area at Christmastime, but we wanted to help people at Thanksgiving because there might be a greater need."

According to Chief Petty Officer James A. Maraán, Station Memorial Chapel religious pro-

grams specialist, information was sent to every unit's sergeant major requesting names of Marines who might be eligible to receive the assistance.

"We know there are Marines, especially younger Marines with families, out there who need help," he said. "The sergeants major could look in their own squadrons to identify those people."

Approximately 250 families were deemed in need of the program's help. The next step was to request the donations of food and supplies necessary to create complete dinners for the families.

The items included canned vegetables, foil turkey tins, baking products and stuffing mix. The families will receive a voucher for a free turkey from the commissary as well, said Turner.

Drop-off points were set up around the Station to make

the donation process easier.

"There were collection sites at the commissary, Delalio Elementary School, the chapel and even some of the squadrons around the Air Station," said Maraán. "All the food and supplies were then taken to the Tax Center where it was sorted so we could begin making up the bags."

Volunteers from the OWC and the chapel took the time to prepare the bags, which will be picked up on Friday and distributed by Marines from each command. At

last count, there were enough donations to fill nearly 270 bags, proving once again that the Station always helps those in need.

"We have to take care of our own," said Maraán. "It's a good way to give back for all they do for us, especially during the holiday season. I'm glad for the opportunity to do this. Helping out our fellow Marines and Sailor around New River is a great thing."

Turner said she was thankful

to all who contributed time, money and effort to the program.

"We couldn't do this on our own," she said. "We really rely on the generosity of everyone aboard the Air Station."

Some Items Donated

- Turkey
- Mashed Potatoes
- Stuffing
- Various Canned Veggies
- Dessert Items



Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale

Chief Petty Officer James A. Maraán, Station Memorial Chapel religious programs specialist, and Lance Cpl. Miguel T. Lopez, chaplain's assistant, hold a few of the items donated for Holiday Cheer.

BOARDS, from page 6

of the board and how well he answers the questions they ask of him.

“I’ve learned so much just from studying and preparing for the promotion boards,” said Sgt. Jason G. Forguson, Station Air Traffic Control tower supervisor. “You try to think of all the things they could possibly ask and you end up knowing a little of everything. I’ve found that win or lose, there is always something you can take away from the experience.”

Young Marines seeing their peers promoted based on their performance can only be a good thing for the squadron, said VanOostrom.

“Other Marines will want to do the right thing because they envision themselves being promoted as well,” he said. “They will continue to improve and work hard.”

Forguson said that more than any other skill or trait, having con-

fidence and bearing before the board members is the most important advice he can offer to other Marines.

“You never know who’s going to be in front of you, so you have to be prepared for anything,” he said. “They want to see how well you carry yourself and whether or not you get flustered if you answer a question wrong. They are looking for people with a strong character.”

VanOostrom said he always ends the boards by telling the Marines that there are no losers, only those who had a better day.

“There is no day on my calendar that I look forward to more than the days we hold boards,” he said. “I know I’ll be spending time with the top ten percent that this squadron has to offer. It is a privilege every month for me to sit with those Marines who work hard to excel.”

The next meritorious promotion boards are scheduled for January and February 2006.

ZHAO, from page 6

they put 110 percent into everything they do.”

Zhao had been no stranger to boards, though, as just ten months earlier he had meritoriously pinned on corporal. Many from Air Traffic Control attribute Zhao’s short time between ranks to his professionalism and leadership presence.

“We think very highly of Sgt. Zhao; he’s a hard-charger,” said Master Sgt. Romano Kidd, ATC staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge. “He performs his job well and has a take-charge attitude that sets the bar for those around him.”

According to Zhao’s letter of recommendation for meritorious sergeant, he constantly sets the standard for his peers to follow and emulate.

“He is a true mentor to the Marines under his charge through his genuine concern for their military and personal development,” said Capt.

Raymond Feltham, ATC officer-in-charge. “(Zhao) seeks out every opportunity to exceed normal expectations of his rank and has limitless growth potential.”

Zhao believes he couldn’t have gotten where he is today without the help of some of the Station’s noncommissioned officers and staff noncommissioned officers.

“Since I got here, all the NCOs and Staff NCOs have believed in me,” said Zhao. “When I got here I was just another lance corporal, but there were sergeants and staff sergeants

who saw that I had potential and gave me that chance I needed to go in front of my first board. I wouldn’t be where I am or do what I do today without them.”

The future is currently in Zhao’s sites as he is planning to apply to the United States Naval Academy.

“I started the process of applying already and I’ll find out if I’ll be accepted by next January,” said Zhao. “If I make it as an officer I’d like to become a pilot; see the other side of air traffic control.”

Before Zhao leaves the Station for any reason he hopes to help out younger Marines the same way he was helped by noncommissioned officers and pass on his experiences.

“I want to pass on to Marines that they should begin preparing for a board well before the day of it,” said Zhao. “I want to be able to help them out to accomplish the mission and try not to let them set themselves up for failure.”



Pfc. Samuel D. White

Zhao sits in front of a radar for now - he's hoping to become a pilot in the near future.

Hey, Marines, have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

Jarhead: New movie a double-edged sword

Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola
correspondent

It's the film version of a double-edged sword. As one side of the sword falls, it cuts into the truth and acts as a no-holds-barred, behind the scenes look at life in the Marine Corps. However, as the sword swings back, it slashes open some of the integrity the Corps is built on.

"Jarhead" depicts one Marines experience in the Corps and is based on Anthony Swofford's novel of the same name. The movie details a variety of experiences in boot camp, Desert Storm and life after separating from the Marines.

The movie stars Jake Gyllenhaal and Jaime Foxx and recently debuted in the highly critical world of the Marine Corps. After watching the movie, much of what was shown on screen will be taken by Marines as wholly negative toward an organization they have devoted their lives and families to.

Yet, there's often two ways to look at any one thing. In this vein, by examining some of the positive and negatives brought on by the more memorable scenes in "Jarhead," the newest Corps film can be seen for what it's worth.

'Jarhead' goes to boot camp

On one hand: The movie opens up with a scared recruit getting "physically motivated" in boot camp by a drill instructor. Truth be told, the opening scenes are no better and no worse than "Full Metal Jacket" and the mythical Gunnery Sgt. Hartman. Recruits are taught to deal with stress and operate under combat conditions – a point the drill instructor "hammers home."

On the other hand: Anytime a drill instructor puts his hands on a recruit, recruiting suffers - even in movies. In some ways it can be seen that the recruit asked for what he received - but the scene sends a bad message. Recruiting is already hurting and it's counterproductive to have the American people believe that their sons and daughters may be unnecessarily hurt during training.

Verdict: Marine Corps boot camp is the toughest in the United States military, but it would be nice to have a film show that in a different

JARHEAD, from page 11

way, rather than “choke yourself” or “I got lost on my way to college.”

‘Jarhead’ goes to his unit

On one hand: When a Marine checks into his unit he faces some unique challenges. In this instance, Swofford faced a fire team of Marines pulling a hazing trick on the new guy. The violent scuffle leads to a beat-up Marine and raised eyebrows from many of today’s Marines. We’ve been taught since day one that hazing is simply wrong. It alienates members of the unit and destroys morale.

On the other hand: During this scene I leaned over to a friend of mine and whispered, “that didn’t happen when I checked into the air wing.” I believe that’s partly the point of the scene. Throughout the Corps there are a multitude of different experiences. Everyone knows that hazing is wrong, but there are some who believe that despite it’s illegality, it’s an old school badge of toughness. There are some old Marines who speak of a tougher age that included different forms of what could be considered “hazing” and see nothing wrong with a scene showing it.

Verdict: Hazing is wrong, anyway you slice it. Any positive effect it may have is far surpassed by the distasteful effects caused if even one Marine feels they are not a part of the unit. The scene sends a bad message.

‘Jarhead’ meets ‘Jody’

On one hand: Jody’s the one at home with your girl, eating your food, driving your car and sleeping in your bed. The film paints every Marine Corps wife and girlfriend with the same brush, portraying the lot of them as cheaters. For deployed Marines it’s just a matter of time before they get “Jodied.” The problem with that is the wives and girlfriends that suffer through the long separations and make sacrifices to stand by their Marine.

On the other hand: Yeah, “Jody” happens. Relationships are tough under normal circumstances and the Marine Corps can make staying together nearly impossible. There’s cheating, but it occurs on both sides. However, what the film does show is some of the unspoken sacrifices Marines have to make - the ones they don’t tell you about in the recruiting office. To live this life means you have to abandon your family sometimes. It means your girl might leave you. It means you have to believe in what your doing

and demonstrate a commitment to the Corps.

Verdict: Not all Marine Corps wives and girlfriends are quick to welcome Jody. In the end, it depends on the person and the circumstances.

‘Jarhead’ goes to Iraq

On one hand: A lot of the scenes that take place on deployment mock the Marines and poke fun at its mission. There are a lot of episodes during this section of the movie that make one wonder about their veraci-

ty, including a massive group weapons discharge. Also, in past movies, it took heavy doses of combat to make Marines lose their minds. In this film, a bad talk with their girlfriends sends them over the edge. In addition, Marines in the movie routinely disobey orders and act in an unprofessional manner.

On the other hand: The Marines held to a code of brotherhood, constant training and motivation despite their hardships. Boredom is a part of war and a part of deployments and Marines deal with it in different ways. In the end, the movie shows a

tight-knit unit that works together and fights for one another.

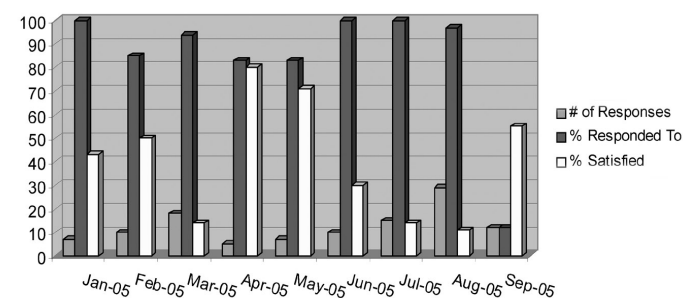
Verdict: No one promised a rose garden. Life is hard and Marine Corps life can be unforgiving if Marines don’t find a way to stay motivated, especially on deployment. “Jarhead” shows that the best way to rise above it is to trust in each other.

In the end: The movie isn’t perfect, but Marines should be able to take more away from the film than just “I hated it” or “I loved it” - it can be both. Local leathernecks should see the movie for training purposes –

what elements of the movie are bad, what elements are positive and what elements are true. It’s there for all to make up their own minds and to form their own opinion.

In any case, it’s entertaining and worth seeing, if for nothing else than to spark debate about the future of our Corps, about what it means to be a Marine and why it’s important to promote a positive message to the community.

Editor’s note: “Jarhead,” starring Jaime Foxx and Jake Gyllenhall, is now playing in theaters nationwide.



The Interactive Consumer Evaluation is a Web-based tool that collects feedback on services provided by various organizations throughout the Department of Defense. Go to <https://ice.disa.mil>.

Station mess hall continues to uphold Marine Corps traditions



(Above) Staff Sgt. John W. Tuliper, Station Dining Facility chief cook, spreads icing on a cake in preparation for the 230th Marine Corps birthday meal at the facility. The meal was served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and was open to Marines, Sailors, dependents and civilians. The menu included rib-eye steak, lobster tail and shrimp cocktail. (Right) A crowd of people enjoy the meal. Approximately 1,200 people attended the event.

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale
correspondent

Approximately 1,200 Marines, Sailors, dependents and civilians enjoyed the Station Dining Facility's annual Marine Corps birthday meal Nov. 9, and took time to reflect on what the history and traditions of the Corps means to them.

According to John Negrón, mess hall manager, the success of the meal each year is due to the hours of work and preparation that the Marine food service specialists and civilian personnel there put into making it special.

"Everyone was working toward a common goal," Negrón explained. "It all goes back to teamwork. On a daily basis, this mess hall's performance peaks that of any other facility in the Marine Corps and the birthday meal is no exception. We have a tradition to carry on and we know that it's our traditions that make us Marines."

Evidence of that performance can be seen in the accolades the mess hall received from the East Coast Food Team, which rated them as "outstanding" during a recent inspection. The facility is also now in the running for the prestigious Ney and Hill Food

Service Award, for which they've been nominated three years in a row.

However, preparing the birthday meal presented the mess hall Marines with special challenges, said Sgt. Leonel A. Rubirosa, Dining Facility assistant chief cook.

"People don't realize how much we put into it," he said. "The amount of food for this one day is bigger than anything else we do all year, but I know they appreciate it and they all look forward to it. The birthday meal is a part of our history and has been for 230 years, and it's our history that shows Marines why they fight."

In anticipation of the crowd, the mess hall Marines prepared nearly 600 pounds of steak and lobster tails, and enough individual shrimp cocktails to feed everyone who came through the door, said Master Sgt. Kevin M. Myer, Dining Facility staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

"Some of them were here throughout the night, making sure we were ahead of schedule," he said.

"I believe it has to do with the high standards and pride amongst the cooks. They always maintain a high level of professionalism,"

he added.

Those who dined at the mess hall each shared common ideas on the importance of tradition within the Marine Corps.

"This is a time to remember where we came from," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Joe B. Crutcher, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-29 assistant avionics officer. "Whether we want to or not, on our birthday we must reflect on the past year and remember what we've done. We all work hard, but this is a way to celebrate our time together and put our best foot forward for next year."

Sergeant Jeremie W. Lovejoy, MALS-29 quality assurance, said events like the birthday meal are positive examples for young Marines to see, so they can continue making a difference.

"After all the history the Marine Corps has been through, it feels good to sit back and enjoy our 230 years."

For retired Gunnery Sgt. Mike S. Casey, the meal was an opportunity to connect with his past.

"This is a good way to get back and touch base with all the guys I knew," he said. "I like to use the word camaraderie, because when I come here, I remember what I was a part of."



(Above) Corporal Gregory A. Ashton-Kenny, Station Dining Facility food service specialist, grills steaks outside the facility in preparation for the 230th Marine Corps birthday meal. Approximately 600 pounds of steak and lobster tails were cooked for the event. (Below) The birthday cake on display.



The Commandant of the Marine Corps' 2005 Birthday Message

On November 10th, 1775, the Second Continental Congress resolved to raise two battalions of Continental Marines marking the birth of our United States Marine Corps. As Major General Lejeune's message reminds us, the ensuing generations of Marines would come to signify all that is highest in warfighting excellence and military virtue. Each November as Marines the world over celebrate the birth of our Corps, we pay tribute to that long line of "Soldiers of the Sea" and the illustrious legacy they have handed down to us.

This past year has been one of continuous combat operations overseas and distinguished service here at home—a year of challenges that have brought out the very best in our Corps. In Iraq and Afghanistan, Marine courage and mastery of complex and chaotic environments have truly made a difference in the lives of millions. Marine compassion and flexibility provided humanitarian assistance to thousands in the wake of the South East Asian tsunami, and here at home, Marines with AAVs, helicopters and sometimes with their bare hands saved hundreds of our own fellow Americans in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Across the full spectrum of operations, you have showcased that Marines create stability in an unstable world and have reinforced our Corps' reputation for setting the standard of excellence.

The sense of honor, courage and patriotism that epitomized those who answered that first call to arms two hundred and thirty years ago is still indelibly imprinted on our ranks today. In commemorating our anniversary, let us strengthen our ties to the past by paying homage to those who have gone before us. As we honor the sacrifices of our wounded and fallen comrades, our commitment to one another remains unshakable. We take special pride in the actions of the Marines now serving in harm's way, and rededicate ourselves to the service of our Nation and our Corps.

Happy Birthday, Marines. Semper Fidelis, and Keep Attacking!

M. W. Hagee, General, U.S. Marine Corps

Injured ‘Patriot’ receives Purple Heart

Cpl. James D. Hamel
2d Marine Aircraft Wing

AL ASAD, Iraq -- Gunnery Sgt. Rose M. Noel, the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-26 electronic counter measures repair center non-commissioned officer-in-charge, is the ultimate family person. One of her families is in the United States and includes her children and mother. Her other family is the Marine Corps, and more specifically, her fellow Marines in MALS-26.

Something happened that threatened to take her away from both of her families permanently, Aug. 27. After returning from a brief vacation in Qatar, Noel was on her way to draw a weapon from the armory. She was almost there when an indirect fire round impacted near her.

“I immediately thought, ‘this is going to ruin my day,’” she said. “I knew I had been hit by something, but I thought it was debris that had been kicked up. I went straight to the armory and said I had been struck by IDF.”

Her last memory was in an Al Asad hospital room, preparing to fly to Balad, Iraq.

As Noel lay unconscious in a hospital, the MALS-26 sergeant major prayed at her bedside. Minutes later, Clemons and another

Marine from the squadron loaded Noel into a helicopter for the flight to Balad, where she would receive further care.

With a one and a half inch piece of shrapnel lodged in her cheek, the doctors wanted to remove it surgically, wire her mouth shut and end her deployment prematurely. But the 17 and a half year Marine Corps veteran wouldn’t have it. As the doctors found out, sending her home was about as possible as wiring her mouth shut.

“From what I understand, I was very beligerent about wanting to return to my Marines,” she said. “My jaw was broken, but I never shut up.”

The doctors were forced to relent, and sent Noel back to her work. She did get a trip home, a scheduled two-week leave period where one of her sons commented on the “coolness” of her battle scar. Noel became one of the few female service members to receive the Purple Heart, Oct. 29, the nation’s oldest military award.

Despite the level of award, Noel asked for a subdued ceremony that included her final reenlistment. Her only desire was for a large crowd of

Marines to be present, not for her fame, but so they could see a living reminder of the danger they face.

“Not a whole lot of MALS Marines are wounded in action,” she said. “I think this makes it more real, and for them, it’s a good experience.”

After presenting her the award, Brig. Gen. Robert E. Milstead, Jr., referenced her two families, and told the Marines assembled they should draw inspiration from Noel’s continued service despite personal injury.

“If this doesn’t do something to you, you’re dead,” he said.

As for Noel, she’s just happy to get back to work and finish the job she came to do.

“Each day is a gift,” she said. “Of course everyone wants to get home, but I want it to be on my own terms, not the insurgents’ (terms). I’m here. I’m back in the fight. That’s what (gunnery sergeants) do. That’s what Marines do.”



Cpl. James D. Hamel

After receiving a Purple Heart, Gunnery Sgt. Rose M. Noel takes the Oath of Enlistment on Oct. 29 at Al Asad airbase, Iraq.

Call the local 24 hour hot line 938-3273

CRIME STOPPERS



- * Report crime anywhere in our community.
- * Caller never reveals his/her identity.
- * Pays **CASH** rewards up to \$2,500.00.
- * Information must lead to arrest and indictment.
- * Reward is collected through code system.

MCAS NEW RIVER **BOWLING CENTER** BLDG. AS-205

\$18
Per Person

& PIONEER SERVICES presents

COLORAMA NO-TAP

Nov. 26th

6:30 pm

(Sign-up 6-6:30 pm)
Mens & Ladies Divisions

STATION LIBRARY
BLDG. AS-213 * 449-6715

CHILDREN BOOK SWAP

November 13th - 19th

Children will be allowed to trade a book for each one book they bring into the library, up to five books.
(Books must be in good condition) (The Swap will include books from children's personal collections only.)

PRE-SCHOOL DEPENDENT CHILDREN AGES 2 - 5.

STORY TIME
November 28th @ 2 p.m.

Enjoy listening to her stories, making crafts, and playing games.

Author: Lois Ehlert

!!!FREE!!!

Jingle Bell Fun Run

December 4th

5K & 1 Mile Fun Run
(reg. Nov. 7th - 28th)

Marina

info.
449-6714

New River Marines pack a punch

Station fighters find motivation in each other to make it into the ring

Pfc. Samuel D. White
correspondent

Two Station Marines stepped into the ring representing the Marine Corps for the first time Saturday, Oct. 29, and, after months of hard training and motivating each other, they walked away with two big wins.

Corporal Tomas Chavez, Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron-22 flight equipment operator, and Sgt. Eric B. Mancebo, Marine Aircraft Group-29 aviation operations specialist, trained together while stationed here and watched their hard work and dedication finally pay off as both won their first matches in Wilmington, N.C.

"(Myself and Chavez) were both stepping into matches that we couldn't lose," said Mancebo. "We'd been training and working too hard for us not to both walk away with wins."

Mancebo and Chavez met while stationed here and found boxing to be a great bond between the two fighters.

"I'd wanted to be on the boxing team since I joined the Corps," said Mancebo. "It was exciting for me to meet another Marine at New River who felt the same way."

The two Marines set their goal on joining the Corps boxing team together and, with enthusiasm, began vigorous hours of training and exercise.

"We were training and physically pushing ourselves and each other practically everyday," said Chavez. "Whenever I felt Mancebo was slacking a little bit I'd push him harder and he would

do the same for me."

"There was a gym outside the main gate called Hurricane Alley we would go to every-day after work," Mancebo added. "Going there became habit and practically turned into a religion for me and Chavez."

Even days the two had squadron physical training they would still find time to fit boxing into their schedule.

"I would wake up before anyone else and just run," said Mancebo. "By the time my squadron was getting ready to start their little run I'd have already ran three or four miles and would still go out with them."

"Some days during lunch, instead of going to the (mess) hall or Burger King, Mancebo and I would go to the gym and work out," said Chavez. "We'd go back to work, finish up the day and then go back to the gym around (6 p.m.). We did that for about a year, it was like we were obsessed with the sport."

An obsession that would pay off as Mancebo and Chavez tried out for the Marine Corps boxing team midyear 2005 and both made



Pfc. Samuel D. White

Sergeant Eric B. Mancebo, Marine Aircraft Group-29 aviation operations specialist, lays a punch into a fellow teammate while practicing at the Corps boxing team gym. Mancebo and Cpl. Tomas Chavez, Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron-22 flight equipment operator, trained together while stationed at New River and both won their first matches in Wilmington, N.C.

the cut.

"It was an honor to make the team," said Mancebo.

Making the team would only bring added pressure to the fighters, though, as they felt others' expectations of them may have been set too high.

"Because we made (the team) we had to work twice as hard not to let anyone down," said Mancebo. "It's like a long journey that never stops."

A journey that led them to their first matches last month in Wilmington, N.C.

"I'm only five foot nine inches so I've always had a disadvantage in height," said Chavez. "It was obvious that I was short up in Wilmington when I went up against a guy that was six foot four inches. Once I was in the ring and I saw him I started thinking, 'What have I got myself into?'"

"To be honest, I

was scared, but I've learned there is nothing wrong with that," Chavez explained. "Once the bell rang and I went into the middle of the ring and he hit me, I was no longer scared. By the end of the fight he was much more afraid of my hits than I was of his."

Success for the New River Marines would strike twice that day as Mancebo would also conquer his own fear of losing his first match.

"My mom was in the stands and I wasn't going to let her or the Marine Corps down," said Mancebo. "I just kept repeating in my mind, 'I can't lose this fight!'"

Both fighters ended up winning their matches by unanimous decisions from the judges. A feat they both believe they couldn't have done without the help of God, the Corps and each other.

"I always try to remember to thank God for the help he has given me," said Mancebo. "Without Him and our coaches, none of this would have been possible for me and Chavez."

Their next fight is Saturday in Wilmington against a new group of boxers. The two will also be trav-

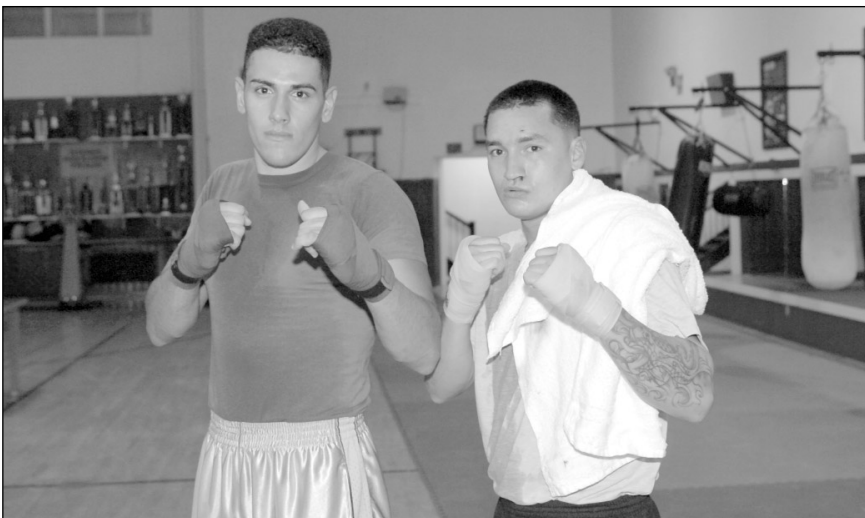
eling with the team this month up into the Northeastern United States to take on several opponents. Ready for the challenges ahead, both Mancebo and Chavez are prepared to show the boxing world what the Marine Corps is all about.

"(For Chavez and me) it's a great honor to represent the Marine Corps," said Mancebo. "If you ask myself or my fellow teammates we'll all tell you that being the face of the Marine Corps boxing team is the best thing that a fighter could ask for."

All-Marine Boxing

The all-marine boxing trials will be held at MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C. Jan. 7 - Feb. 5, 2006.

Marines interested must submit applications no later than Dec 10, 2005. Applications must include past boxing experience, numbers of bouts and results in past two years. Applications can be found at www.usmc-mccs.org/sports or the local Semper Fit athletics office.



Pfc. Samuel D. White

Mancebo and Chavez flash their fists of fury inside the Marine Corps boxing team's gym located at Camp Lejeune. Both Marines made the Corps team earlier this year.

Hey, Marine, stay safe during the holiday season!



Cpl. Rocco DeFilippis

Marines from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit command element march down the streets of Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C. during a conditioning hike on Oct. 27.

Thanksgiving traditions not forgotten

Lt. Doug McCormick
Marine Aircraft Group-29



Worldwide the values and traditions of Thanksgiving are found in every culture and religion. The Thanksgiving holiday celebrated each November in the United States is a cherished American tradition.

Today it is known worldwide as an American custom, but its roots extend far back into human history. Some of the very early origins of our Thanksgiving tradition can be traced back to the harvest festival. I find it intriguing that a lot of our community churches and other places of worship are having harvest festivals. Just riding around in my neighborhood you can see the symbols of the celebration of the harvest; indian corn, hay bails, pumpkins and gourds. The harvest festival has been celebrated since the dawn of recorded history and I bet, one can safely assume, it was celebrated for a long time prior.

Along with this celebration, it has always had a religious significance. One of the purposes of Thanksgiving is to be thankful to God for the produce of the fields. But, it has always had a strong secular focus too, being a time of relaxation and enjoyment after the hard labor of bringing in the crops. It is generally marked by feasting and games. The

first Thanksgiving of the early Pilgrims in colonial America was a three-day event, not just of worship, but of competition, eating and socializing.

In many ways, we are losing touch with the original purposes of Thanksgiving. Very few of us are involved anymore with farming and, in most places, remote from the completion of an actual harvest. It is a day that families gather around a table and thank God for another year. Turn on the TV and watch football or play games. Then go back for another round of food. If you are the lucky one and hosted the meal, you will have turkey for the next week.

Significant historical and world-wide significance can be seen in prehistoric times, the first Americans observed rituals and ceremonies to express gratitude to a higher power for life itself. Throughout history, countries in Asia—including Japan, India, Indonesia, Thailand and Sri Lanka—have hosted festivals in gratitude for each year's rice harvest. In Africa, many tribal expressions of gratitude are similar to this ancient prayer: "The year has come around again, great Lord of our land—never can we thank you for your good deeds and all your blessings."

In South America, many of the native Indian cultures contain expressions of gratitude and thanksgiving and in modern Brazil a special public day of thanksgiving and prayer has been designated for the fourth Thursday of November every year since 1949. In the

British Isles and Europe, the harvest thanksgiving is observed in Protestant and Catholic churches with special altar decorations. In Belfast, Northern Ireland, land has been set aside to establish a Thanksgiving Square there.

It is a good idea that we give thanks also, to God and the ones who actually put food on the table. We need to give thanks for the ever diminishing number of farmers who actually grow the food; give thanks to those who, in various ways, transport the food from all over the country, and from all around the world; give thanks to those who prepare and package the food for us to make our final preparation easier; and give thanks to those in wholesale and retail who get the products into our hands. There are probably thousands of people involved in the chain that brings us all those things we consume in an average Thanksgiving dinner. It is worthwhile taking a minute once a year to consider their efforts and thank them.

Finally, lest we forget our faithful Men and Women who are currently deployed in far away lands, some in harms way and some not. That our prayers reach out to them and their families. Anne Frank said, "I do not think of all the misery, but of the glory that remains. Go outside into the fields, nature and the sun, go out and seek happiness in yourself and in God. Think of the beauty that again and again discharges itself within and without you and be happy."

Safety Snippets: Impaired Driver

Can you spot an impaired driver on the road?

When you drive, protect yourself and passengers by being focused and on the lookout for impaired drivers. Keep these in mind to avoid a dangerous situation.

Drivers under the influence of alcohol often display certain characteristic driving behaviors:

- Weaving, swerving, drifting or straddling the center-line
- Driving on the wrong side of the road
- Driving at a very slow speed
- Stopping without cause or braking erratically
- Turning abruptly or responding slowly to traffic signals
- Driving with the window down in cold weather
- Driving with headlights off at night

If you are in front of the impaired driver, turn right at the nearest intersection and let the driver pass you. If the driver is in front of you, stay a safe distance behind. And if the driver is coming at you, slow down, move to the right and stop. Alert the police that there is an impaired driver on the road.

Drive Focused. Stay Safe. Avoid Impaired Driving. Alcohol involvement is highest at night (9 p.m. to 6 a.m.), on weekends and on holidays. Driving skills, especially judgment, are impaired in most people long before they exhibit visible signs of drunkenness.

Celebrations are a part of our lives and sometimes they include alcohol. They should not, however, involve impaired driving. Decide who is the designated driver before the party starts. Be the kind of co-worker who will take the keys if someone has had too much to drink. If you're impaired, make the safe choice – ride with a designated driver, call a taxi, stay where you are or call a sober friend or family member. Making the safe choice could save your life.

On the "roads more traveled" these days, it's more important than ever to drive with a clear head.



Memorial Chapel services

Sunday Services

Catholic 9 a.m.

Protestant 11 a.m.

For more information, call the Memorial Chapel at 449-6801.



Marine and Family Service Center

Retired Affairs

Each Wednesday and Friday
8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The retired affairs representative can provide retired servicemembers and their spouses with information regarding benefits, entitlements, privileges and legal assistance.

No appointments are necessary to attend this class, however, guests can call for information.

Play Morning

Each Thursday
9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Youth Community Center

Play morning is a time for mom and dad to have fun with their children who are age six and under.

For more information, please call New Parent Support Program at 451-5286.

Keystone Meetings for Teens

Each 1st and 3rd Friday
6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

A Boys and Girls Club Program that offers children an opportunity to gain leadership skills, participate in and earn communi-

ty service hours as well as social activities.

Attend, voice suggestions and plan events. On the third Friday of each month, teenagers can select a prevention topic to discuss.

Transition Assistance Program (TAP)

Nov. 16 and 17
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

TAP is a 2-day career options workshop which helps you assess your knowledge, skills and abilities and apply your military acquired skills in the civil-

ian employment sector.

Topics include resume preparation, job search, interview skills, dress standards, job negotiations and much more. Pre-registration required through your unit transition counselor.

Stress Management, Part IV - Anger Control

Nov. 22
1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Stress Management, Part IV can help you to learn to identify different anger styles and help you find practical ways to manage "out-of-control" emo-

tions.

Pre-Marriage Workshop

Nov. 30
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Planning on getting married or just married? This all day workshop will cover nuts and bolts of communication skills, financial issues, being married to a Marine, children and much more.

For more information about programs or to pre-register for one of the classes, call 449-6110/6185

Get on my footprints right now!



Congratulations!
Lance Cpl. Jacob and Pfc. Rachel Brown
on their new Devil pup
Brennan Jordan Lee
Oct. 14, 2005
Welcome to New River!

Get on my footprints right now!



Congratulations!
Sgt. Robert & Sarah Broome
on their new Devil pup
Colin Patrick
Oct. 17, 2005
Welcome to New River!

Get on my footprints right now!



Congratulations!
Sgt. Homer and Kelley Chambers, II
on their new Devil pup
Audrey Victoria
Oct. 20, 2005
Welcome to New River!

Get on my footprints right now!



Congratulations!
Lance Cpls. Marilyn and Andrew Hewett
on their new Devil pup
Cole Elliott
Oct. 23, 2005
Welcome to New River!

Array of scholarships available for military spouses



Jennifer Moore
contributor

Marines and sailors often hear about the financial aid opportunities available if they choose to attend college and high school students have a wealth of information about scholarships at their fingertips. But often, military spouses may not know how to get the financial aid or scholarships necessary to continue their education.

There are numerous opportunities for higher education – at every level – in the Jacksonville area. Paying for that education should not have to be a burden.

At Coastal Carolina Community College, counselors work with students to ensure they succeed, according to Colette Teachey, public information officer for the college and executive director of the Coastal Carolina Community College Foundation.

A handful of the nearly 200 named scholarships are designated for military family members, but most are open to any full-time student who can show evidence of need and maintain a 2.0 grade point average.

Nearly all of the scholarships can be used for military dependents, according to Teachey.

“We feel very strongly that we

want to support our military friends and neighbors. They are an important part of our community,” she said.

The community college also offers a text book loan program for students who cannot afford the often astronomical costs of books.

To be considered for any scholarship at Coastal, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, commonly known as the FAFSA. The form allows students to apply for federal and state financial aid programs.

“We do everything we can to provide some assistance to students who need it,” Teachey said. “We are looking to fill in the gaps” left by federal or state aid.

Students seeking a four-year degree can pursue an education at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. Besides the array of programs offered at the main campus, UNCW offers a handful of programs in Jacksonville at Coastal Carolina Community College. Currently, UNCW in Jacksonville offers a bachelor of arts in elementary education, bachelor of arts in criminal justice, bachelor of science in nursing, master of arts in liberal studies, master of education in elementary education and teacher licensure for elementary education.

“It is the same quality of education you’d get at the main campus,” with university professors and

adjunct faculty teaching the courses, but tuition rates are much lower, said Beth Barton, director of the UNCW extension program.

Military dependents are eligible for in-state tuition rates, even if they have only lived in the state for a day, Barton said.

Financial aid and scholarships are also available through the main UNCW campus. Students must be admitted to the university before they can apply for scholarships, but information about all the scholarships is available online at www.uncw.edu/finaid.

Campbell University offers associate degree programs, bachelor degree programs and a master of business administration program on base, and students can fill out the FAFSA to be eligible for federal or state financial aid.

There are also numerous national scholarships available for military families administered through the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, available to the dependent children of active-duty and retired sailors or Marines and the spouses of active duty Navy and Marine Corps personnel.

Applications are available in the financial aid office of any institution of higher education or online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Lyons recommends filling out a paper application to use for reference before filling out an online application.

Station Theater Movies Nov. 16 - Nov. 30

Wed. Nov. 16	9 a.m.	Into the Blue	PG-13
	7 p.m.	Into the Blue	PG-13
Fri. Nov. 18	7 p.m.	The Greatest Game	
		Ever Played	PG
Sat. Nov. 19	9:30 p.m.	Into the Blue	PG-13
	7 p.m.	Greatest Game	PG
Sun. Nov. 20	9:30 p.m.	Serenity	PG-13
	3 p.m.	Greatest Game	PG
	6 p.m.	Serenity	PG-13
Mon. Nov. 21	7 p.m.	Two for the Money	R
Wed. Nov. 23	9 a.m.	History of Violence	R
Fri. Nov. 25	7 p.m.	Wallace and Grommit	G
	9:30 p.m.	Elizabethtown	PG-13
Sat. Nov. 26	7 p.m.	Wallace and Grommit	G
	9:30 p.m.	Elizabethtown	PG-13
Sun. Nov. 27	3 p.m.	Wallace and Grommit	G
	6 p.m.	Two for the Money	R
Mon. Nov. 28	7 p.m.	Domino	R
Wed. Nov. 30	9 a.m.	Elizabethtown	PG-13
	7 p.m.	Elizabethtown	PG-13



The theater snack bar opens 30 minutes before the first movie and closes 45 minutes after the last movie begins. Movies and times are subject to change.

For more information, call the Station Theater at 449-6292 or 449-6528.



A \$1 admission fee is charged for ages seven and above.

CNATT staff sergeant goes medieval

Pfc. Samuel D. White
correspondent

“Lower your shield a little more, just a couple more inches.”

Lord Wolfgan whispers to himself as he sits in his crossbow on the chest of a knight from atop the castle wall; waiting for his victim to make his fatal mistake.

Unaware of the imaginary bull’s eye Wolfgan has painted on his chest, the knight lets his guard down.

“Breathe, relax, squeeze.”

A bolt flies from the clutches of the crossbow, delivering a lethal blow to the knight whose last images are that of Wolfgan reloading to take down another one of his comrades.

Wolfgan, prepared to defend his castle to the death, thinks to himself, “One down, a couple thousand more to go.”

Staff Sgt. Brian Neldner, Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training quality assurance staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, also known as Lord Wolfgan has for 15 years has participated in medieval era battles across the country.

Neldner is part of an organization known as The Society for Creative Anachronism that is dedicated to researching and re-creating the arts and skills of pre-17th-century Europe.

“I found out about the SCA when I was younger, but never participated in their events,” said Neldner. “Since I’ve joined, I’ve had a lot of fun that most people don’t ever get to experience.”

Neldner found out about the organization from another Marine while he was stationed overseas.

“When I was in Okinawa for my first tour, one of the Marines I became friends with was a member and dragged me to a couple of events,” he said.

Being forced to attend ended up being a life-changing experience for Neldner as he saw men practicing a hand-to-hand art that has been outdated for many years.

“Sword fighting,” sparked Neldner. “It caught my eye and I had to do it. I was young, energetic and couldn’t just watch. I had to get out there and wail into somebody.”

An opportunity he would have many times as Neldner has participated in countless tournaments and over 14 major SCA events.

“I’ve been to a lot of the gatherings, but my personal favorite is Pennsic,” said Neldner. “More people go to that event than any other (SCA event) in the country, so you’ll get to see a lot of interesting things going on.”

Pennsic, a medieval war between the Eastern United States and the Midwestern United States, takes place north of Pittsburgh. The war has over ten thousand participants each year in August making it the largest SCA event in the country. Neldner has attended the event many times, but this year was the first he took part in the actual fighting.

“Every year before I would go and marshal the battles and serve water to the troops that were on the field,” said Neldner. “This year I had the opportunity to be in the heart of the battle fighting for my kingdom.”

Neldner recalls being attacked by so many people that he ran out of ammunition for his crossbow well before the end of the war.

“Men were coming at me from all different directions,” Neldner explained. “Before I knew it, I reached down for another bolt and I had none left. Luckily, there was a fallen body next to me so I took his ammunition and held the line for a couple more minutes.”

Neldner attributes some of his medieval fighting skills to the Marine Corps and fundamentals he learned at boot camp.

“Shooting a crossbow is very similar to that of the M-16,” said Neldner. “You breathe, relax and slowly and steadily squeeze the trigger.”

“When fighting in at arms battles, I use some techniques learned from (the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program),” Neldner explained.

Neldner plans to continue his medieval adventures and hopes that more people learn about the SCA and become interested in the organization.

“I’d like to see more people show up to the events and watch them grow,” said Neldner. “I’ve had a lot of good times and I think a lot of other people would too. There aren’t many (instances) where someone can swing a sword or axe or shoot a crossbow at someone and have it be fun for both who are participating.”



contributor



contributor